

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 /058 W

----- 093652

P R 301100Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1835

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 434

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, YO

SUBJ: BELGRADE EIGHT SUSPENDED BY SERBIAN PARLIAMENT

REF: BELGRADE 5817, 191, 362; ZAGREB A-3

1. SERBIAN ASSEMBLY JAN 28 SUSPENDED EIGHT DISSIDENT PROFESSORS AND INSTRUCTORS FROM THEIR POSITIONS ON BELGRADE PHILOSOPHICAL FACULTY. IN CONTRAST TO PREVIOUS OFFICIAL ACTION MOVING TOWARD SUSPENSION (BELGRADE 362), SUSPENSION ITSELF WAS GIVEN WIDE COVERAGE ON ALL LOCAL MEDIA (BUT NOT, HOWEVER, PLAYED AS A TOP NEWS ITEM).

2. COMMENTARIES POINT OUT ALLEGED ANTI-PARTY AND ANTI-SELF-MANAGEMENT ATTITUDES OF EIGHT, THEIR "MISUSE OF THEIR TEACHING POSITIONS FOR POLITICAL ACTIVITY", AND MAXIMUM EFFORT BY "YUGOSLAV SOCIETY" TO TREAT ISSUE "WITH MAXIMUM TOLERATION AND RESPECT FOR LEGAL PROCEDURES". MOST COMMENTARIES TAKE CARE TO POINT OUT THAT EIGHT WILL CONTINUE TO DRAW SALARIES, AS PROVIDED BY LAW WHICH PERMITTED THEIR REMOVAL (REF BELGRADE 5817).

3. REACTION TO SUSPENSION OF EIGHT AT UNIVERSITY SO FAR SEEMS ONE OF RESIGNATION. DEAN OF PHILOSOPHICAL FACULTY RESIGNED JAN 25. RESIGNATION IS WIDELY INTERPRETED HERE AS PROTEST BUT  
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THERE ARE NO OTHER INDICATIONS OF ACTIVE SUPPORT OF EIGHT SO FAR.

MEETING OF PHILOSOPHICAL FACULTY CALLED FOR JAN 28 HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN PUT OFF UNTIL ABOUT FEB 15, POSSIBLY DUE TO PRESSURE FROM UNIVERSITY LC FOR COOLING-OFF PERIOD. IN CONTRAST, ATTITUDE OF EIGHT THEMSELVES IS REPORTED DEFIANT. SEVERAL HAVE ALREADY INDICATED THEY WILL REFUSE OFFER OF RESEARCH POSITIONS IN INSTITUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNIVERSITY (BELGRADE 191). INDIVIDUAL WHO HAD ALREADY ACCEPTED RESEARCH POSITION IS REPORTEDLY MIHAJLO DJURIC WHO, WHILE ON PRAXIS EDITORIAL BOARD, IS NOT INVOLVED IN SUSPENSION.

4. (CONNECTED WITH SERBIAN ASSEMBLY DECISION IS NOV 1, 1974 DECISION BY DROATIAN REPUBLIC SCIENCE COUNCIL TO END OFFICIAL SUBSIDY TO PHILOSOPHICAL JOURNAL PRAXIS. REF ZAGREB A-3)

5. COMMENT: DISPUTE WITH BELGRADE EIGHT WAS APPARENTLY RESOLVED IN FIRST HALF OF LAST YEAR, BUT SUBSEQUENT PROCEDURAL CHANGES HAVE NOW ALLOWED WHAT WILL BE WIDELY INTERPRETED AS PRE-EMPTION OF SELF-MANAGEMENT RIGHTS OF UNIVERSITY, AND THEREFORE AS NEGATIVE REFLECTION ON WHOLE SELF-MANAGEMENT SYSTEM. THAT OFFICIALS ARE AWARE OF THIS IS EVIDENT IN STRONG EFFORT TO COUNTER IT: IN DETAILING "STALINIST METHODS" USED BY EIGHT TO ELIMINATE OPPOSITION AND THEREBY SHORT-CIRCUIT SYSTEM AT PHILOSOPHICAL FACULTY (CF JAN 26 NIN AND JAN 29 TANJUG DISPATCH), AND IN CAREFUL EMPHASIS ON ASSEMBLY'S RIGHT TO ACT ON ITS OWN AS "RESPONSIBLE SOCIAL ORGAN". MUCH OF THIS EFFORT IS OBVIOUSLY CONTRIVED, PARTICULARLY ATTEMPTS TO ATTACH "STALINIST" LABEL TO EIGHT.

6. MANY OTHER ELEMENTS OF ATTACKS ON EIGHT SEEM SIMILARLY CONTRIVED. FOR INSTANCE, IF ALLEGATIONS THAT EIGHT HAVE ATTEMPTED TO ORGANIZE ACTIVE OPPOSITION IN YUGOSLAVIA WERE TRUE (CF. JAN 13 KOMUNIST), THEY WOULD BE FACING CRIMINAL CHARGES -- NOT SUSPENSION FROM TEACHING POSTS.

7. REAL REASON FOR MOVE IS CLEARLY FOUND IN VARIOUS CRITICISMS OF YUGOSLAV SYSTEM AND LC BY THE EIGHT, ESPECIALLY ATTACKS ON STATE BUREAUCRACY AND LEAGUE OF COMMUNISTS AS "ELITIST GROUPS" WHICH THEY ALLEGE POSE BARRIER TO DEVELOPMENT OF SELF-MANAGEMENT. GIVEN

VITAL ROLE OF PARTY AS STABILIZING ELEMENT IN YUGOSLAV SOCIETY, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ATTACKS ON PARTY POSITION ASSUME SIGNIFICANCE FAR BEYOND IMMEDIATE CONTEXT OF ATTACKS. ANOTHER IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTING FACTOR TO YUGOSLAV OFFICIAL CONCERN MAY HAVE BEEN ROLE PHILOSOPHICAL FACULTY PLAYS IN YUGOSLAV TEACHER TRAINING. IN THIS CONTEXT, MOVE AGAINST EIGHT WOULD BE NECESSARY, IN SPITE OF POSSIBLE DAMAGE TO IDEAL OF SELF-MANAGEMENT.

8. SO FAR MOVES AGAINST EIGHT HAVE BEEN OF RESTRICTED

NATURE. THEY WILL CONTINUE TO DRAW SALARIES.  
THEY HAVE BEEN OFFERED OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE RESEARCH. AND NO  
LEGAL ACTION HAS YET BEEN TAKEN AGAINST THEM. BALANCING THESE  
IN TURN IS WITHDRAWAL OF PRAXIS SUBSIDY. PRAXIS, MOST IMPORTANT  
OUTLET FOR OPINIONS OF EIGHT WITHIN YUGOSLAVIA, IS NOW IN OPEN  
FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES, AND ITS DEATH WOULD BE FURTHER STEP  
TOWARD MUZZLING THEM.  
TOON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TEACHERS, REMOVAL FROM OFFICE, POLITICAL FREEDOM  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** johnsorg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975BELGRA00434  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750034-0440  
**From:** BELGRADE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t1975018/aaaaagpc.tel  
**Line Count:** 123  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 BELGRADE 5817, 75 191, 75 362, 75 ZAGREB A-3  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** johnsorg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <01 JUL 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <13 NOV 2003 by johnsorg>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BELGRADE EIGHT SUSPENDED BY SERBIAN PARLIAMENT  
**TAGS:** PINT, PINS, YO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006